

Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in New Hampshire.— Four Starlings were seen at Hanover, N. H., on April 17, 1915. As this is the first time these birds have been seen here, I thought the record might prove of interest.— E. GORDON BELL, *Hanover, N. H.*

Bachman's Sparrow near Chicago, Illinois.— The scene of this discovery is not Chicago proper, but the suburb of River Forest. Near my home in this fine suburb is an eighty acre tract of land, which I call "Waller's Park," for although a piece of real estate held for speculation, it is in reality a beautiful park, as it has been surrounded by the owner with an eight foot fence and for over twenty-five years planted up with many kinds of trees and bushes, so that, besides having in the course of these years become a park, it is also an ideal bird preserve or sanctuary, unintentional as this phase of the project may have been on the part of the owner. On May 9 I went into this idyllic spot, which, however, had up to this time not been resorted to by flights of migrants as much as would be expected, owing to the unseasonably cool or cold weather. The temperature for May recorded by the Chicago weather station was two degrees lower than that for April, if I am not mistaken, the coldest May since the establishment of the office. After seeing several Palm Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Field Sparrows, Baltimore Orioles and the here inevitable Cowbirds, my attention was suddenly arrested by an unusual song. On going to that part of the grove from which it came, I noticed ten to fifteen reddish sparrows, which were busily feeding on the ground among the grass and then, as though they could not keep their exhilaration for themselves or that it could not be given vent to on the ground, some would mount to the lowest branches of the adjacent trees and pour out a ringing song. The song resembled that of the Chewink at its best and also that of the Field Sparrow, being, however, louder than the latter and sweeter than the former. Approaching to within fifteen feet of several of the singers, I saw that they were Bachman's Sparrows (*Peucaea aestivalis bachmani*), a species with which I had become familiar during a stay in southern Illinois. It was hard to believe, but looking them over again and again, with and without the glass, one could, also by elimination, arrive at no other conclusion, which was corroborated by the skins in my collection when I came home. That flock stayed there, in the same spot, for several days, for I saw them again on May 12. Knowing that this species is one of those which are gradually extending their breeding range northward, I still thought that these birds would not remain to breed, for the gap between here and the nearest locality to the south from which they are reported as breeders, would be too great. I thought they had in their migratory ardor been carried along by other sparrows until they found themselves farther north than they wished to go, and would retrace their flight fifty or more miles southward. However, on May 23, I noticed one again which behaved very much as though it were at home. On June 29 and 30, I heard two

singing lustily in the open grove opposite my home, which is two blocks east of the park described above. Wishing to clinch the record I, on July 1, took one, which proved to be a male, whose enlarged testes made it certain that it had been or was breeding. Therefore Bachman's Sparrow must be looked upon as an, at least occasional, breeder in the Chicago area.—G. EFRIG, *Oak Park, Ill.*

Leconte's Sparrow in Wisconsin.—Under this title in the January number of 'The Auk,' Mr. Schorger notes the occurrence of Leconte's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus lecontei*) at Madison in April of last year. In Wisconsin the species is undoubtedly an unusual one, at least on the spring migration, but, despite the fact that Kumlien and Hollister failed to get it in spring, there are several records from various points in the state since the publication of 'The Birds of Wisconsin.' Attention is called to a note by Mr. I. N. Mitchell (Bulletin of the Wisconsin Natural History Society, vol. VIII, No. 3, July, 1910), which covers these, and consists of three spring records. Mr. Schorger says: "On April 11, 1914, three were taken and one seen at Madison." Curiously enough, the writer took a full plumaged male at Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, on the same date!—A. R. CAHN, *Univ. of Wis., Madison, Wis.*

Junco Breeding in Concord and Lexington, Mass.—*Junco hyemalis hyemalis* has been generally considered a bird characteristic of the Canadian fauna. Its ordinary distribution in Massachusetts during the breeding season embraces the lofty hill country of the western part of the State, and a narrow elevated strip of land running south from Mt. Monadnock, N. H., into Worcester Co., Mass., and forming the water-shed which divides the tributaries of the Connecticut from those of the Nashua River. In this strip are included the rounded mountain domes known as Watatick (1847 ft.) and Wachusett (2016 ft.). I recall but three instances of Junco breeding in the eastern part of the Atlantic slope of Massachusetts, viz.: in Middlesex Fells (Eustis, Auk, xxii. 103, Jan. 1906), Wellfleet, Barnstable Co. (Remick, Auk, XXIV, 102, Jan. 1907), and Wellesley, Norfolk Co. (A. P. Morse, Pocket List of the Birds of Eastern Massachusetts, p. 64, 1912).

In the latter part of May, 1915, Mr. C. A. Robbins called my attention to a pair of Juncos established on the edge of Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord, and on the 6th of the following June Dr. W. M. Tyler and I watched both of the parent birds as they were busily employed in carrying food to their young, concealed in the branches of some tall white pines.

On the 20th of the same month Dr. Tyler and I found another pair feeding fledged young near the old Paint Mine in Lexington, about six miles from the Concord locality. This family of birds was seen by us at the same place on several occasions up to the 18th of July.—WALTER FAXON, *Lexington, Mass.*